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Samy Vellu hopes to be granted audience by Sultan of Selangor

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - Works Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said today he was hopeful of being granted an audience by the Sultan of Selangor Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah to explain his statement on the water issue relating to Selangor.

Samy Vellu said today he had asked his officials to request an audience.

"If possible, on Monday. I am now waiting to be granted an audience and have nothing more to say until I meet the Sultan. I will explain to the Sultan first and only then provide the details," he said after chairing the MIC central working committee meeting at Wisma MIC.

He is scheduled to attend the presentation of the Darjah Kerabat Yang Amat Dihormati (DKI) by the Sultan to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on Monday.

Samy Vellu was commenting on a statement by Selangor State Secretary Datuk Abdul Aziz Mohd Yusof yesterday that he (Samy Vellu) had been summoned by the Sultan over his statement that Selangor had refused to hand over the management of water supply to the Federal Government.

The minister's statement incurred the wrath of the Sultan, who described it as contrary to the actual position of the State Government.

On Tuesday, Samy Vellu was quoted as saying that Selangor was the third State after Kelantan and Terengganu to object to the Government's decision to take over the management of water supply, as agreed to at a meeting of the National Water Resources Council in July.

Meanwhile, Samy Vellu said he would meet water authorities and companies to discuss reports indicating that the existing plants needed servicing.